

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

---

1-2. Canceled.

3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2 6 wherein said error signal provides input to a regulating element for regulation to a condition of homeostasis.

4. Canceled.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2 6, further including:

establishing pathways between outputs of first selected nodes of interest to inputs of second selected nodes of interest.

6. (Currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 2~~ In a computer system, a method for simplifying simulation of a complex dynamic system, said complex dynamic system comprising a plurality of interacting nodes of interest in a network of said nodes of interest, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of said nodes of interest representative of a living organism in said computer system, said nodes of interest being established at a selected plurality of levels of a nested hierarchy of source-sink relationships, each node of interest having at least one input, at least one output paired with said at least one input, at least one transformation of inputs, at least one transformation of outputs, a measurable ratio of input transformation rate to output transformation rate of an input/output pair, at least a first activated state in the node corresponding to an excess measurable ratio of input to output, at least a second activated state in the node corresponding to a deficit measurable ratio of input to output, and transient storage of a product of the input;

for each node of interest, defining a balanced state between said first activated state and said second activated state, said balanced state corresponding to a zero error between said measurable ratio and a preestablished balanced ratio, said preestablished balanced ratio corresponding to a mathematical critical point in thermodynamic energy; and

seeking said balanced state as homeostasis at each level in said nested hierarchy to account for interaction between nodes of interest throughout said nested hierarchy;

for each said node of interest, sensing for non-zero error between said measurable ratio and said preestablished balanced ratio;

using said non-zero error as a control signal to mediate at least one of said inputs, said outputs and an external process; and

further including depicting each said four dimensional model in five orthogonal dimensions of space, time and grayscale, said grayscale representing a mapping from a second temporal dimension.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6 further including providing feedback across said five orthogonal dimensions from said old four dimensional model to produce a new four dimensional model, said old four dimensional model and said new four dimensional model together constituting a six dimensional model.

8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 6 wherein said critical point is selected for maximum stability of said balanced state.

9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 6 wherein said critical point is selected in response to sensing said outputs of said nodes.

10-11. Canceled.